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To: US Patent and Trademark Office
Examiner Drodge, Joseph W.
TC/AU: 1723

Date: January 17, 2006

Fax No.: 1-571-273-2885

Pages: 5, including this cover sheet

From: Pasquale Musacchio
Reg. No.: 36,876
Siemens IPD

Subject: US s/n: 10/802,691

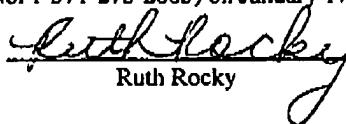
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Attached please find:

1. Issue Fee Payment: PART B – FEE (S) TRANSMITTAL
2. COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE
3. Change of Attorney Docket No.

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.8

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(Fax No. 1-571-273-2885) on January 17, 2006.


Ruth Rocky

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

App. No. : 10/802,691
Applicant : Johnson et al.
Filed : March 16, 2004
TC/A.U. : 1723
Examiner : Drodge, Joseph W.
Docket No. : 2002P87050US

Mail Stop Issue Fee
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.8

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Ruth Rocky

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance set forth in the Notice of Allowability mailed October 19, 2005, Applicant submits the following remarks.

The Examiner's Statement of Reasons of Allowance makes a characterization as to the primary reasons for allowance. It is believed that such a characterization of the claims does not properly represent Applicant's claimed invention. As such, Applicant does not agree with the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

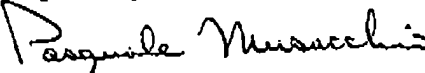
With respect to independent claim 1, Applicant asserts that this claim and any claims dependent therefrom are allowable since, as previously set forth, Applicant's invention is directed to:

"A method of cleaning a membrane filtration module, the module comprising, an upper header, a lower header, and at least one membrane situated in a feed-containing vessel, wherein the membrane extends longitudinally between the upper header and the lower header, wherein a first end of the membrane is potted in the upper header, wherein a second end of the membrane is potted in the lower header, wherein the upper header and the lower header are vertically spaced, wherein at least one of the upper header and the lower header comprises at least one opening, and wherein the membrane comprises a permeable wall, the method comprising:

- a) applying a feed comprising at least one contaminant to a first side of the permeable wall and withdrawing a filtrate from a second side of the permeable wall and through a first vessel port;
- b) suspending applying the feed and withdrawing the filtrate;
- c) cleaning the permeable wall by applying a backwash, whereby the contaminant is dislodged from the permeable wall and into a liquid surrounding the membrane;
- d) sweeping the feed-containing vessel with feed in a direction substantially parallel to the membrane, whereby the liquid containing contaminant is removed through the opening and through a second vessel port; and
- e) recommencing applying the feed and withdrawing the filtrate."

Applicant does not acquiesce that patentability resides in the characterization expressed in the Statement of Reasons for Allowance.

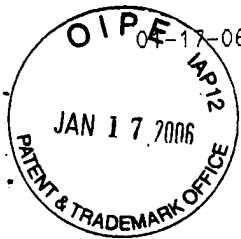
Respectfully submitted,


Pasquale Musacchio

Reg. No. 36,876

Dated: JANUARY 17, 2006

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5/ 5

Attorney Docket No. 2002P87050US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Warren Thomas Johnson
Serial Number: 10/802,691
Filed: March 16, 2004
Examiner: Drodge, Joseph W.
Group Art Unit: 1723
Title: HIGH SOLIDS MODULE

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please change the attorney docket number as follows:

FROM: USFMC.R.134C1
TO: 2002P87050US

I am the Attorney or Agent of Record. Registration No. 36,876

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: January 17, 2006

By: Pasquale Musacchio
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Reg. No. 36,876